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Mr. Andrew J. Lear of 50 Gay Street, Cumberland, Md., writes: "I have used Sloan's Liniment for neuralgia and I certainly do praise it very much."

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BOSTON SHOWS REAL CLASS

Beantown Nationals Touted by Expert as Showing Most Marked Improvement Over Last Year; Is Strongest Batting Team

(By James Clarkson)
CHICAGO, March 16.—With the bells about to ring in the great baseball season, two clubs, the Cincinnati Reds and the Boston Nationals, loom up as the most improved in the 1912 battle.

Neither team is in any immediate danger of copping the bunting, but from the early outlook it would not be at all surprising to see them fighting it out for first division berths.

It is noted that in estimating the strength of the two clubs that, both will be under new managers this season. Hank O'Day entering the ranks with the Reds, while Johnny Kling is taking his all on the Pilgrims of the Hub.

Undoubtedly the strongest batting team in baseball, not even excepting the Athletics and Tigers, is John Kling's Boston club.

An effort will probably be made to teach the art of first basing to Jay Kirke, a wonderful hitter. Kirke has never shown big league class in any fielding position, but his remarkable ability to sting the ball covers a multitude of defensive sins.

With Kirke at first base, or at third, where he will be placed if it is decided to retain Ben Houser, Boston will have a murderous bunch of sluggers, five of the seven infielders and outfielders hitting over .300.

Kirke played second base in the Southern league last year, but isn't likely to be put there at Boston in preference to Bill Sweeney, who suddenly became a great ball player when his position was shifted last spring.

George Jackson, another Southern leaguer, looked like a coming star in the closing games of last season. He is another slugger and is almost sure to win a regular home in left field.

The Boston outfield isn't the best in the world in fielding, but it doesn't have to be with its batting strength. Sweeney and Bridwell form a classy combination at short and second, and if the other two places can be filled satisfactorily Boston will be able to back up its pitching respectably.

Given three hurlers who could hold the opponents to an average of three or four runs a game, Kling would have a club which might surprise the world. As it is, Boston must murder the ball to win, and Kirke and Jackson are two recruits who are expected to be found guilty of murder in the first degree.

It doesn't look as if New York, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Brooklyn would show increased strength. New York may be good enough to repeat its triumph without the addition of young stars.

Pittsburgh is still classy enough for the first division, and Bresnahan and Huggins make the Cardinals fight hard enough to keep out of last place. Brooklyn seems to be without hope, and the saddest figure in the Dodger squad is Nap Rucker.

Chicagoans undoubtedly think Brooklyn is strong enough as it is. It certainly causes the Cubs enough trouble. But Rucker and Daubert outclass their mates, and the former one of the greatest pitchers the game ever saw, will never be rated as

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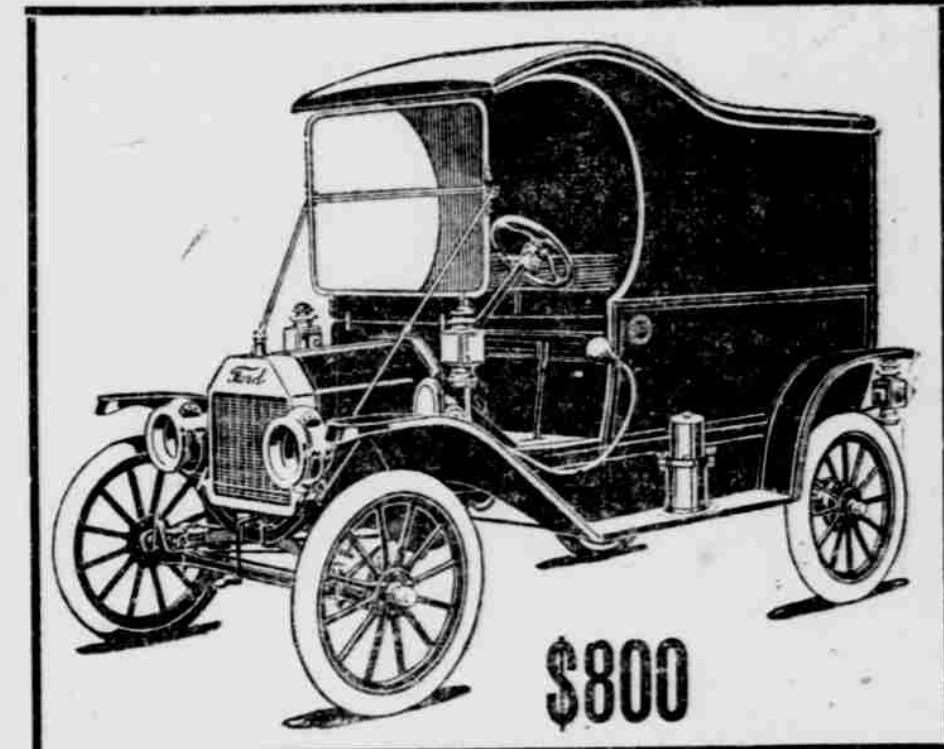
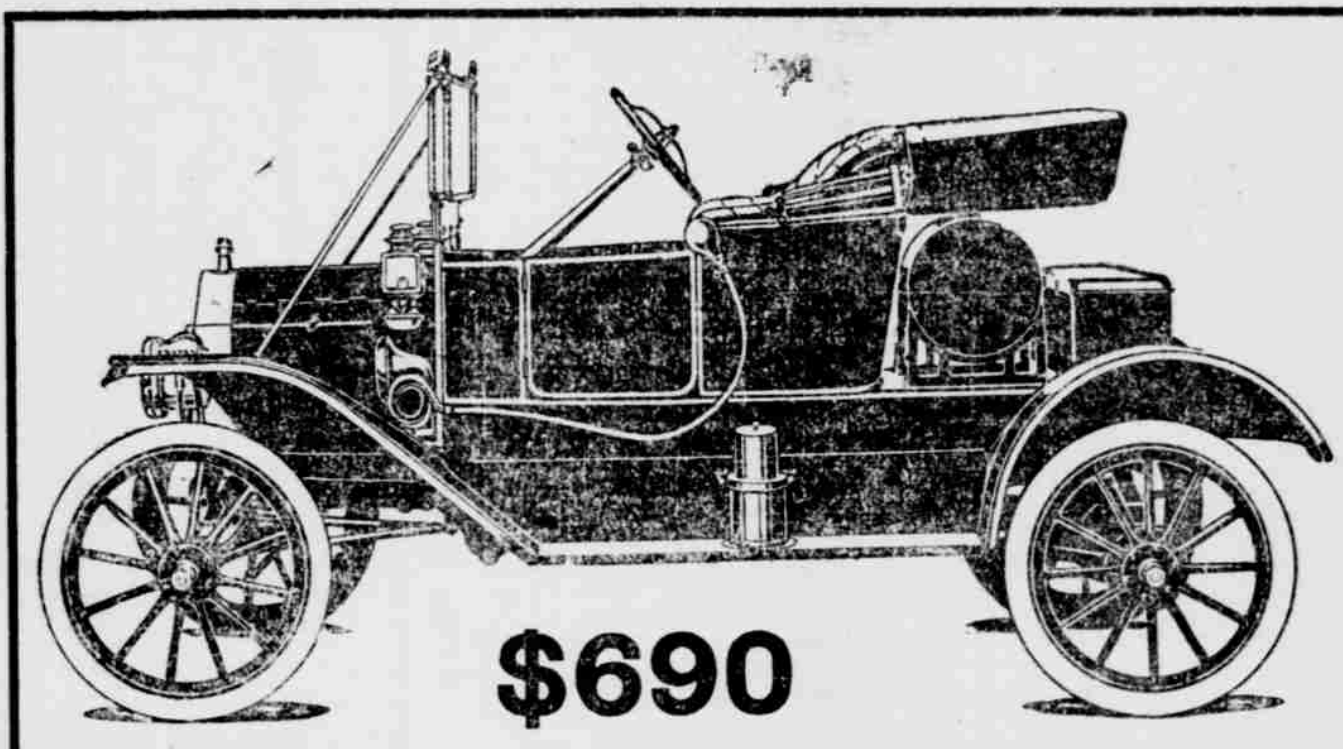
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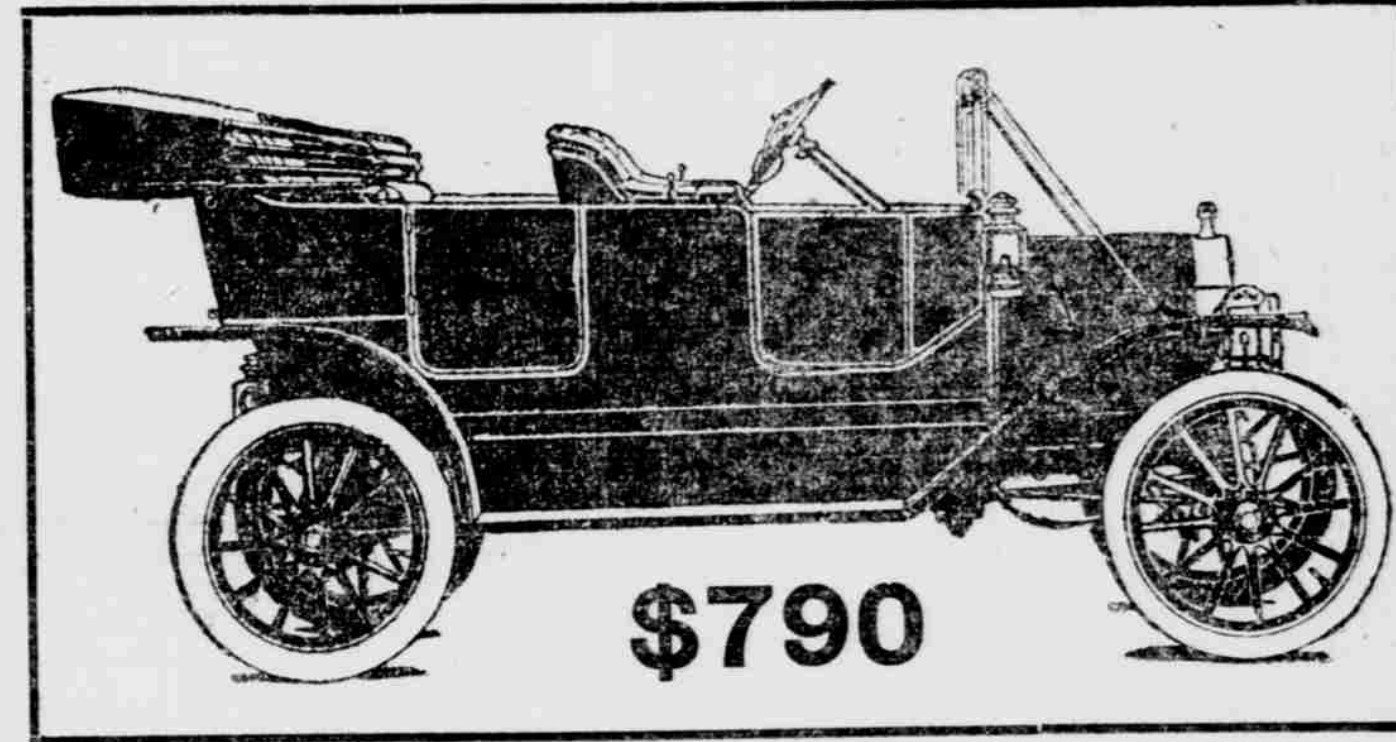
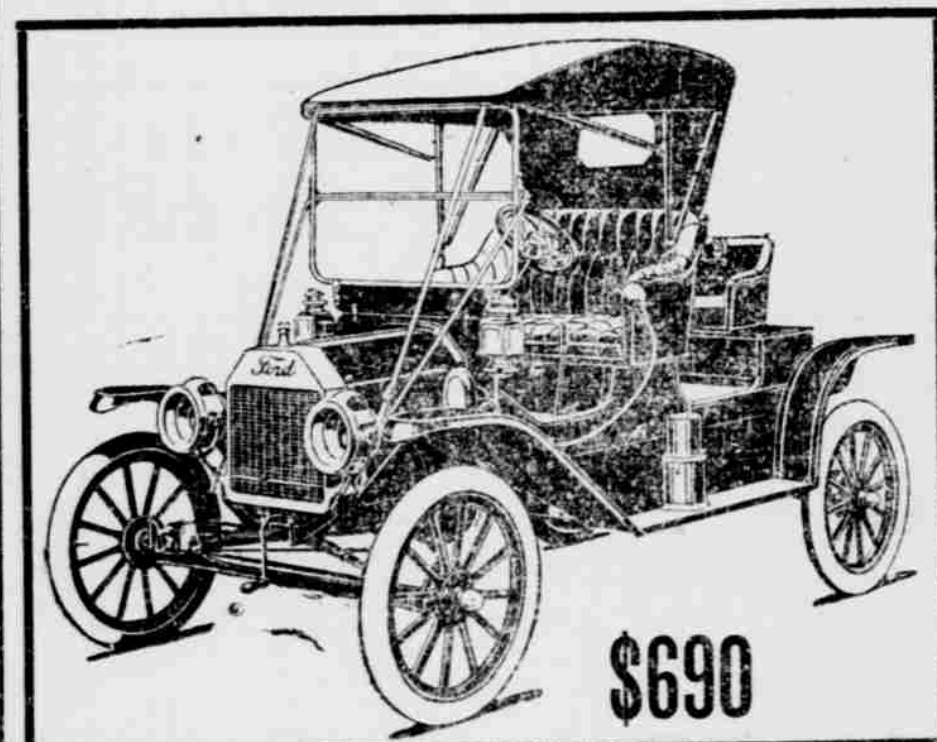
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highly as he deserves because of the club he is serving.

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SPECIFICATIONS FOR NEW CROSSCUT CANAL

The Data Is Ready for Prospective Contractors. Canal to Be Completed December 1.

The Water Users association has completed and now has for the information of contractors, the specifications for the excavation of the new Crosscut canal to run from the Arizona, east of the Red buttes, via the proposed new power house site, to a junction with the new extension of the Grand canal. The specifications call for the completion of the Crosscut, which is one of the projects for which the association has assessed its members, by December 1 of this year. Bids for construction are to be opened March 28.

According to the specifications the first 3400 feet south from the canal head on the Arizona canal, will be above the surrounding country, the purpose being to keep the water as high as possible that there may be a greater fall at the power house. This section will be constructed by throwing up ditch banks and lining the ditch with cement, so it will not break and run over the adjacent area.

The next section of the ditch will be "in the ground" for the most part, though there will be one gap of 700 feet, where the water will run through a concrete pipe laid practically on the surface of the ground. The rest of the canal will be ditch, skirting the red hills as high as possible. In some places there will be much excavation and in others very little, while in some places it may be necessary to haul dirt to make ditch banks high enough. Just before reaching the site of the power house the water will be emptied into a pressure pipe running through the plant.

Ostrich plumes cleaned and dyed—willows made from old plumes. 25 W. Monroe.

PRESSING OUT "THE BENDS"

Compressed-air illness, or caisson disease, has been recognized for many years, but it remained for Paul Bert, the eminent French physiologist, to discover the exact cause. He worked the whole matter out theoretically, and then proved it practically by experiments on animals, thus saving thousands of lives. Normally we live under a pressure of atmosphere of fifteen pounds to the square inch, and at this pressure a certain amount of gas goes into solution in the fluid of the body, and, incidentally, we all are three-quarters liquid, as it goes into any other fluid. This air which surrounds us is not a chemical compound but a mechanical mixture. Leaving out of consideration about 0.4 to 0.5 per cent of other gases, it consists of about twenty-one parts of oxygen and seventy-nine parts of nitrogen by volume.

Now when a man or animal goes into compressed air, his blood takes into solution an increased quantity of oxygen and nitrogen from this compressed atmosphere, the quantity of these gases absorbed being in direct proportion to the increase in the pressure. These gases taken up by the blood are gradually distributed.

When a man suddenly comes up into the normal atmosphere, as he usually does after work, the abnormal pressure is taken off and he undergoes rapid "decompression." When the extra compression is taken off, the now freed nitrogen gas, which had been held in solution by the pressure, forms into little bubbles in the blood. And this is the cause of the whole trouble.

These bubbles act as emboli (obstructions) and block up the capillaries (little blood vessels) in one or another part of the body, and, by thus cutting off the blood supply or by direct mechanical violence, cause the various symptoms of compressed-air illness. The harmful results which take place only after the patient goes into normal air, where the extra pressure is taken off the nitrogen, may be prevented by making the change from the highly compressed atmosphere slowly enough to allow the absorbed nitrogen to escape by the lungs.—Walter Peet, M. D. In Harper's Weekly.

POSSIBLE CALIFORNIA PRODUCTIONS.

Secretary Wilson has received a report from Walter T. Swingle through D. Galloway, chief of the bureau of

plant industry, with regard to a trip of inspection on agricultural conditions in Spain and Algeria. The trip was made with the idea of comparing agricultural conditions there with those of the United States. Among other things the report states that the cork-oak intensively grown in Spain could be profitably grown in the United States. "I am confident," the report states, "we could grow cork in many parts of the United States by selecting extra good trees for a propagating purpose. In particular, I am confident that in many parts of California cork-oak of selected varieties could be grafted on the native oaks found there. I have seen black oak grafted on white at Chico, California, and cork-oak is much more closely related to the California oak than is any black oak."

At Sevilla, the report adds, an inspection of one of the largest green-olive picking establishments was made. The olives are soaked in lye, then washed thoroughly, according to the statement. On sampling some of the olives with an acid taste was discovered which resulted from natural fermentation through the curing processes. "I am convinced," the report states, "that a scientific study of olive fermentation would yield results of the highest value."

At Alcazar a remarkable large seedling date was discovered, an offshoot of which would be worth \$1000 in California.

THE BIG NOISE.

Just now the live thing in the real estate business is the letter E puzzle in connection with the Las Palmas tract. Lawyers, doctors, mechanics, young men, old maids, all colors and creeds are wrestling with the problem. Its solution is simple but to date no one has solved it.

The home-runner on the political race track may entertain hopes of reflecting even more credit on his country by becoming a baseball star one of these days.—Atlanta Constitution.

SOUR GRAPES IN OHIO

One Mr. Grapes, of Zanesville, Ohio, publishes a card saying that he will not be responsible for any debts contracted by his wife. Eh, ha! A case of sour grapes, undoubtedly.—Elmira Advertiser.

THE FAMILY TREE OF HUMOR

Joseph Addison: It is indeed easier to describe what is not humor than what is, and very difficult to define it otherwise than as Cowley has done, by

negatives. Were I to give my own notions of it, I would deliver them after Plato's manner, in a kind of allegory, and by supposing Humor to be a person, deduce to him all his qualifications, according to the following genealogy: Truth was the founder of the family, and the father of Good Sense. Good sense was the father of Wit, who married a woman of collateral line called Mirth, by whom he has issue Humor. Humor, therefore, being the youngest of the illustrious family, and descended from parents of such different disposition, is very various and unequal in his temper; sometimes you see him putting on grave looks and a solemn habit, sometimes airy in his behavior and fantastic in his dress;

inasmuch that at different times he appears as serious as a judge and as jocular as a Merry Andrew. But as he has a great deal of the mother in his constitution, whatever mood he is in, he never fails to make his company laugh.

BALTIMORE INDIFFERENT

Those Baltimore hotel keepers care not who rules the convention as long as they collect the bills.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

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